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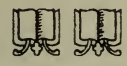
TREGARON RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1948





## TO THE TREGARON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my report for the year 1948.

### Statistics and Comments:

Area—121,546 acres.

Population—5,360.

Inhabited Houses—1,920.

Rateable Value—£7,726.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£32.

### Births:

Live births—40 males; 50 females.

Legitimate—34 males; 48 females.

Illegitimate—6 males; 2 females.

Still births—2 males, all legitimate.

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population is 16.2.

Deaths of children under 1 year—5 males 2 females.

Live Birth Rate for England and Wales is 17.9.

### Deaths:

Total deaths number 45 males; 34 females; a total of 79 deaths.

Death rate is 14.7, compared with 10.8 for England and Wales.

The chief causes of deaths were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Heart Diseases ... ..	15	7	22
Cancer ... ..	8	4	12
Pneumonia ... ..	2	0	2
Bronchitis ... ..	5	7	12
Diabetes ... ..	0	1	1
Nephritis ... ..	0	1	1

There were no deaths from causes such as Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Influenza, Scarlet Fever, Measles.

### Notifiable Cases during 1948:

There were no epidemics of any kind during the year, apart from a mild form of "Influenza."

There was only one notification of "Scarlet Fever."

# Tuberculosis:

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 .. .. .								
1 .. .. .								
5 .. .. .								
10 .. .. .								
15 .. .. .				1				
20 .. .. .								
25 .. .. .								
35 .. .. .						1		
45 .. .. .			1		1			
55 .. .. .		1						
65 and upwards								
Totals .. ..		1	1	1	1	1		

During 1948 only three new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, two being non-pulmonary cases.

Only two deaths from Tuberculosis occurred during the year, (one male and one female).

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the register on the 31st December, 1948:—

Males—22 Pulmonary, 7 non-Pulmonary; Total 29.

Females—8 Pulmonary, 2 non-Pulmonary; Total 10.

Total Males and Female cases—39.

There is a steady decline in the number of cases of Tuberculosis occurring in the area.

## GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

1. The Council employs one part-time Medical Officer and a full-time Sanitary Inspector.

2. District Nurses are available for all Maternity cases, and the services of these nurses are also available for any general nursing work.

There is no Isolation Hospital in the district, and all infectious cases have to be treated in their homes.

3. **Laboratory Facilities.**—All examinations are conducted at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory attached to the General Hospital at Aberystwyth.

4. All surgical cases are treated at the Aberystwyth General Hospital.

Mental deficiency cases are treated in the Three Counties Mental Hospital at Carmarthen.

5. Maternity work is usually conducted in the patient's home, but cases requiring surgical interference, or cases where home conditions are unsuitable, may be transferred to the County Maternity Home at Aberystwyth.

6. **Ambulance Facilities.**—Under the National Health Scheme, sitting cases may be moved by motor cars.

Stretcher cases have to be sent by Ambulance, the nearest Ambulance Stations being Aberystwyth and Lampeter.

The arrangement for sitting cases is quite satisfactory, but the removal of the Ambulance from Tregaron will cause unnecessary delay and suffering to serious cases, especially serious accident cases in need of urgent hospital treatment.

7. **Clinical and Treatment Centres.**—The County Medical Officer of Health and the Dental Officer visit all schools periodically.

A new Clinic for ante-natal and child welfare work is being started at Tregaron and this will, in time, fill a long-felt want.

8. **Water Supplies.**—Tregaron has a piped water supply which is satisfactory.

Llangeitho has a good piped supply.

Pontrhydfendigaid has a good supply of water.

Llanddewi Brefi is in urgent need of a new water supply.

Many of the smaller villages in the area are in need of improved water supplies.

9. **Factories and Workshops.**—Apart from the Milk Factory at Pont Llanio, there are no large factories or other workshops in the area.

10. **Infestation.**—No cases have occurred in the area.

11. **Housing.**—The housing problem is being gradually improved with the erection of new Council houses, but there is still a big need for new houses which can be let at a moderate rental.

## SANITARY REPORT.

### Housing:

Number of houses erected during the year with State assistance under the Housing Acts:—

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) By the Local Authority ...     | 14 under construction. |
| (2) By other Bodies or persons ... | —                      |

### 1. Unfit Dwelling Houses:

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health Act)  | 30 |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations ...                                   | —  |
| (c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...                             | 6  |
| (d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-headings) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation ... | 20 |

### 2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... | 3 |
|---|---|

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act  | — |
| (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts ...  | — |
| (c) Proceedings under Section 2, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act 1925, Closing and Demolition Orders ... | — |

During the year it has been most difficult for Landlords to carry out repairs and improvements. The position re materials has improved a little, but the labour problem is as acute as ever because of the scarcity of skilled workmen. Several houses in the district have connected to the water mains and sewers.

### Tabular Summary of the work of the Sanitary Department during the year 1948:

Number of inspections for water leakages ...	132
„ „ Infectious Diseases ...	11



„	„	Disinfections ... ..	6
„	„	New Drains tested ... ..	200 yds.
„	„	Interviews with owners for repairs ...	20
„	„	Nuisances investigated ... ..	15
„	„	Nuisances abated informally ... ..	15
„	„	Inspections to workshops ... ..	20
„	„	Inspections to Bakehouses ... ..	30
„	„	Earth Closets and Middens converted to W.C's. ... ..	3
„	„	Inspections of School Lavatories ... ..	32

The refuse at Tregaron is collected once weekly and taken to a dump outside the town, and disposed of by the controlled method of refuse disposal, and supervised by the Sanitary Inspector.

The water supplies have been very good during the year. Some villages have a very poor supply, and it is hoped that the proposed County Water Scheme will improve conditions.

The village water supply at Ystrad Meurig has been improved and extended. The galvanized pipes have been replaced by asbestos cement pipes, and a small tank, to hold 800 galls. approximately, constructed. Two houses and two farms have now been connected to this supply.

#### **Milk Supply.**

Number of Cowsheds inspected for registration ... 50

Number of Farms, Cowsheds and Buildings inspected,  
and advice given as to alteration and cleanliness 132

Sampling of Milk is carried out at the M.M.B. Factory at Pont Llanio. Sampling under the Milk (Special Designations) Order is carried out by the County Council.

**Meat and Other Foods Inspections.**—The following foodstuffs were condemned:—

10 Tins of Corned Beef.

20-lbs. Meat.

45 Tins Carrots.

2 x 5½-lbs. Roast Beef.

2 Boxes Fish Cakes.

26-lbs. Bacon.

3 Dozen Eggs.

9 Tins Evaporated Milk.

5 Tins Pineapple.

25¼-lbs. Tea.

Periodical visits are paid to all Food Shops, Cafes, etc., and Licensed Premises in the area re cleanliness of the Premises and

Foodstuffs. Improvements have been commenced at one Licensed Premises.

**Rodent Control.**—The amount of rodent control work carried out during the year was very small as there is little evidence of infestation in Tregaron and the surrounding villages.

At the Refuse Tip at Tregaron (controlled tipping) disinfestation was carried out twice before a new tipping ground was commenced.

The Council's workman is employed as Rodent Operator whenever he is needed.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Council and the Sanitary Inspector for their advice and co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. J. WILLIAMS.